ATLAS
BIBLE TALES
MAR.
NO. 5

BIBLE TALES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

AUTHORIZED A C M C
CONFORMS TO THE COMICS CODE

10¢

LOOK AT SKINNY! I wouldn't be seen with him!
LATER
AM I PROUD OF THE WAY THE GIRLS LOOK AT YOU!
...AND HE USED TO BE SO SKINNY!
WHAT A MAN!

SKINNY

MEN ARE OFTEN ASHAMED TO STRIP FOR SPORTS OR FOR A SWIM!

GIRLS ARE NOT ALLURING AND DON'T HAVE EYE-CATCHING CURVES!

CHILDREN WHO WON'T EAT AND ARE UNDER WEIGHT, OFTEN CALLED SKINNY!

Now at last More-Wate plan that puts firm, attractive pounds and inches on your body, chest, arms and legs.

GAIN MORE WEIGHT IN 10 DAYS OR YOUR MONEY BACK!

Amazing New Way developed by modern medical science to put on weight on lean bodies. **Guaranteed** to give you up to an **extra pound a day!** Or **your money back!** Why should you dread going to parties and socials, simply because you look scrawny and spindly? Why ever feel self-conscious about your body again? If you're **underweight*** . . . or just a little on the thin side, due to faulty appetite, or bad dietary habits, you can **put on up to a pound a day** of **attractive weight** without exercise . . . dangerous drugs . . . or special diet . . . and more quickly, more easily than you ever dreamed possible . . . with MORE-WATE. MORE-WATE contains no dangerous drugs . . . you **eat it like candy!** Yet . . . if you were to have this same prescription compounded to your order, it would cost you many times more. However, through this introductory offer, you can obtain **4-way** MORE-WATE tablets . . . a full 10 days' supply . . . for just $1.00 or a 30 day supply for only $2.98, plus a 10 day supply free, with an absolute money-back guarantee! Yes, try MORE-WATE for TEN DAYS . . . and if not entirely delighted with weight gained, return the unused supply for full refund! You've nothing to lose . . . and **weight to gain!** Act now! Stop being the guy or the gal that everyone calls "skinny." Stop being the guy or the gal who dreads summer and going to parties and socials because it means everyone will enjoy themselves and you won't. Don't be a wall-flower, because you have a figure like a broomstick! **Gain more weight!**

10-DAY SUPPLY ONLY $1.

The 4-way MORE-WATE tablets are **unconditionally guaranteed** to put on weight . . . or it doesn't cost you a penny! MORE-WATE is a **delicious,** full strength, 4-way tablet . . . that combines not just one . . . or two . . . but 4 of the most amazing aids for **gaining weight** known to medical science. MORE-WATE is not a liquid . . . not a powder. It's delicious, **pleasant-tasting tablet!** It contains vitamin **B-12** . . . the **amazing red vitamin doctors** give many **underweight patients in hospitals** . . . It contains iron that helps correct iron deficiency, anemia and builds rich, red blood. It contains appetite-building vitamin B-1 . . . and it contains nutritious easily assimilated malt, the amazing ingredient that helps your body turn much of the food you eat into **well rounded flesh** instead of being wasted. **That's the secret of putting on weight.** Now you can help your food to **add new pounds** to your **arms, chest, hips, thighs,** and **legs.** Now you don't have to be skinny . . . or afraid to be seen socially and be ashamed of your figure! **You must achieve the figure you want . . . or don't pay anything.** Act now!

Not one child yet has failed to go for and ask for more MORE-WATE tablets! Stop worrying about children not eating enough, give them MORE-WATE tablets—it stimulates their appetite . . . they eat it like candy!

SENSATIONAL 10-DAY TEST!

Mail the coupon now! Test the amazing MORE-WATE tablet plan for 10 days at our expense. If after 10 days your friends, your mirror and your scale do not tell you that you have gained weight and look better you pay nothing!

MAIL THIS NO RISK TRIAL COUPON NOW!

MORE-WATE CO., Dept.162
318 Market Street, Newark, N. J.
Just mail us your name and address, and $1.00 cash, check or money order. You will receive a 10 day supply of MORE-WATE tablets and plan, postage prepaid.

☐ Send me 30 day supply plus an extra 10 day supply (that's a 40 day supply) for $2.98. I understand that if I am not delighted with MORE-WATE tablets and plan, I can return the 30 day supply in 10 days for full purchase price refund, and keep the 10 day supply without charge.

NAME _____ ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____

SENT ON APPROVAL—MAKE AMAZING 10-DAY TEST

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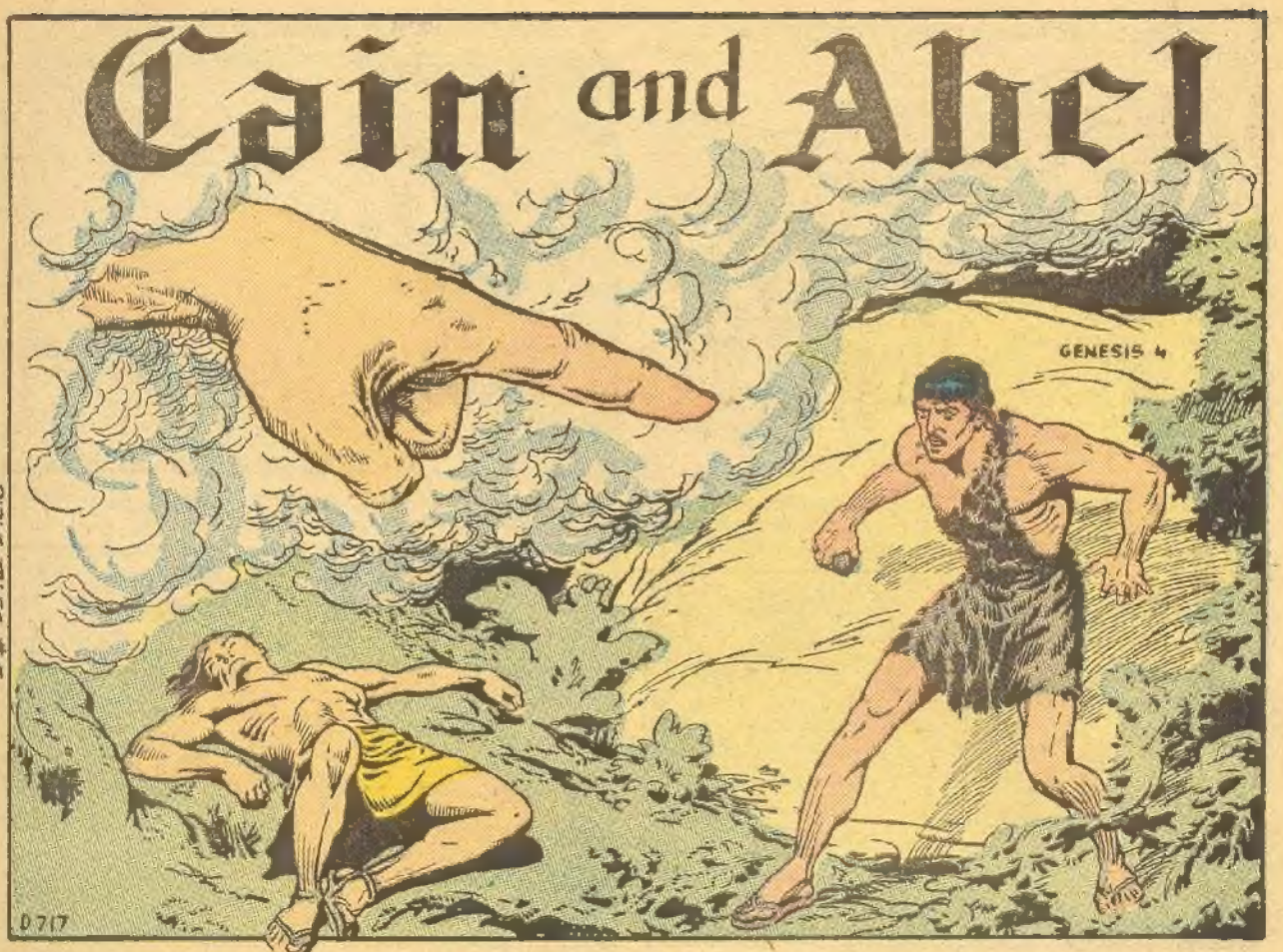
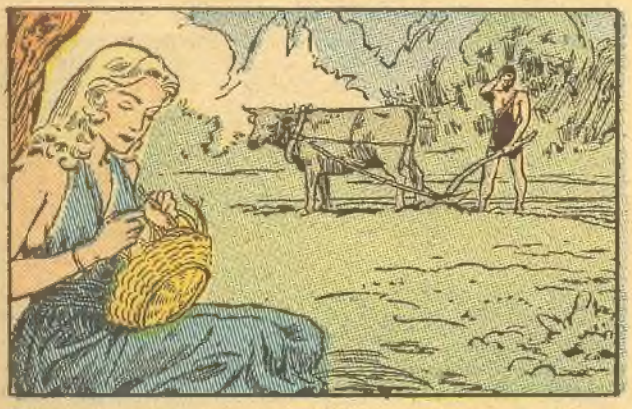
Cain and Abel

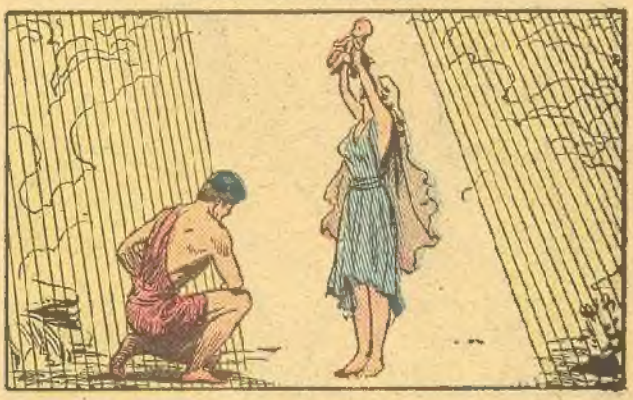
BIBLE TALES #5



ADAM AND EVE WERE THE FIRST MAN AND WOMAN ON EARTH.

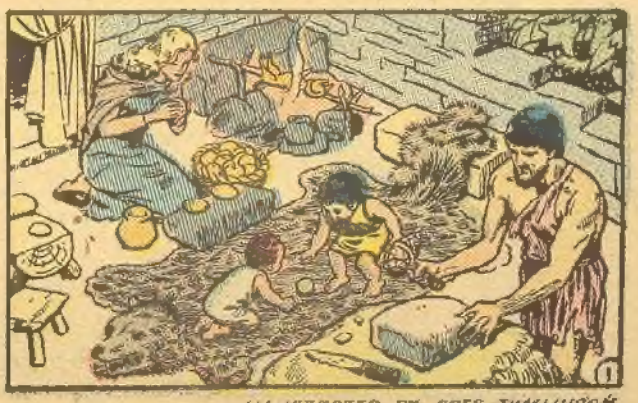
AND ONE DAY EVE GAVE BIRTH TO THE FIRST CHILD. THEY NAMED HIM CAIN. EVE SAID: "I HAVE GOTTEN A MAN FROM THE LORD."





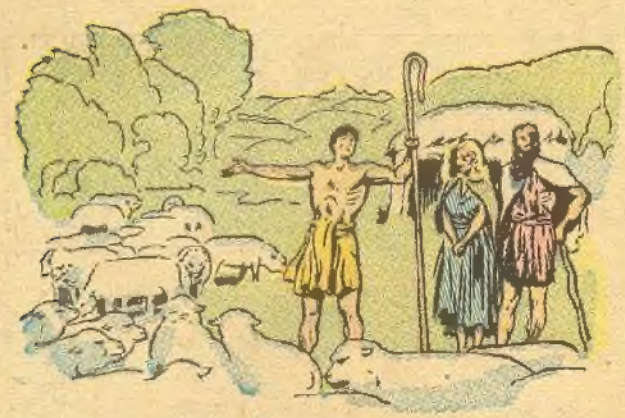
THEN SHE BORE ANOTHER SON AND THEY CALLED HIM ABEL.

SO CAIN AND ABEL WERE THE FIRST CHILDREN BORN OF THE FIRST MAN AND THE FIRST WOMAN. THE LORD LOOKED DOWN AND BLESSED THEM.



ILLUSTRATED BY PETE TUMLINSON

ABEL BECAME A KEEPER OF THE SHEEP.

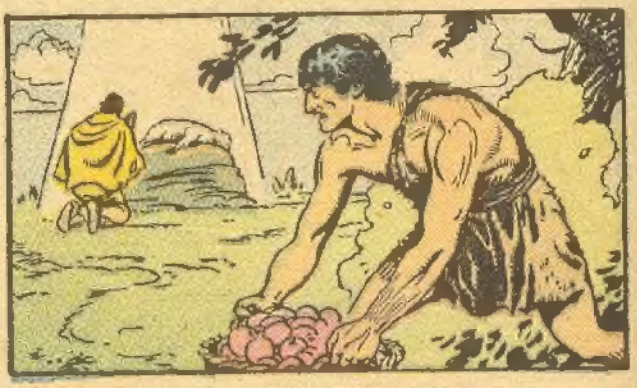


AND CAIN WAS A FARMER IN THE FIELDS.

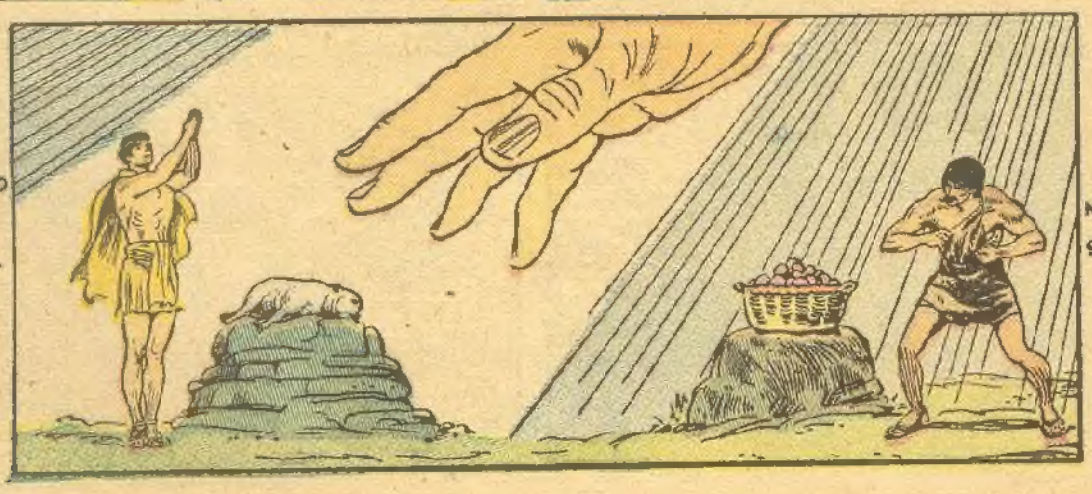
BUT CAIN WAS TOO BUSY COUNTING UP HIS PROFITS TO GIVE ANY THOUGHT TO THE LORD.

ONE DAY ABEL TOOK THE FIRST OF HIS FLOCK OF SHEEP AS AN OFFERING TO THE LORD.

WHEN CAIN SAW THIS, HE THOUGHT THAT HE, TOO, SHOULD SHOW THAT HE WAS A TRUE FOLLOWER OF GOD, SO HE BROUGHT THE FRUIT OF THE GROUND AS AN OFFERING TO THE LORD.

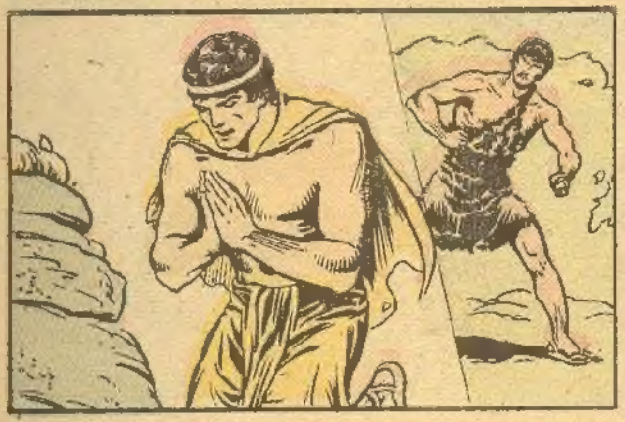


THE LORD BLESSED ABEL AND HIS OFFERING...



BUT HE DID NOT NOTICE THE SACRIFICE OF CAIN.

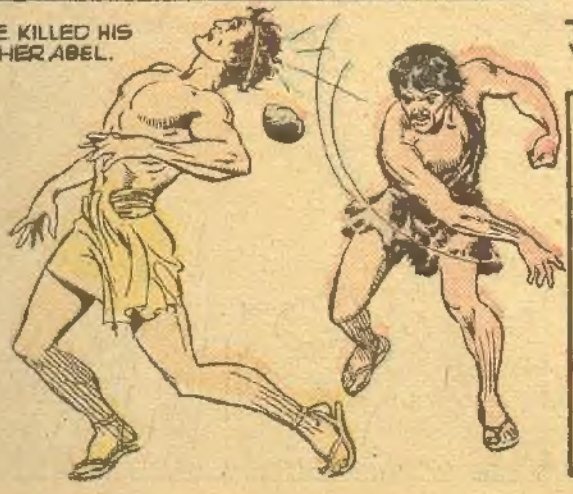
CAIN BECAME VERY ANGRY AND JEALOUS OF HIS BROTHER A NEW FEELING STIRRED IN HIS SOUL...VENGEANCE!



AND THE LORD SAID TO CAIN: "WHY ARE YOU ANGRY? IF YOU DID WELL, I WOULD ACCEPT YOUR OFFERING ALSO. AND IF YOU DO NOT DO WELL, EVIL WAITS FOR YOU AT THE DOOR. IT IS UP TO YOU, WHICHEVER YOU WISH TO DO."

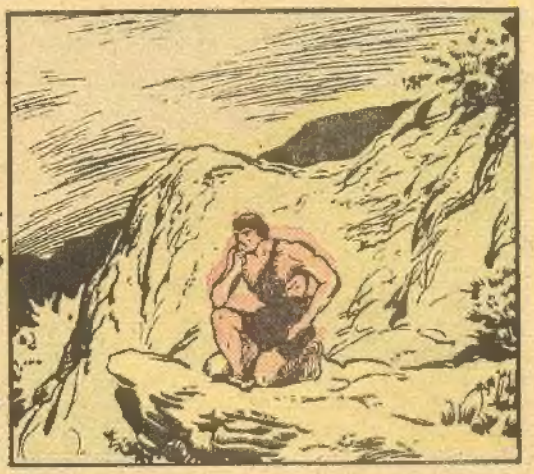
HE CALLED TO HIS BROTHER. "COME, ABEL," HE SAID. "LET US WALK IN THE FIELDS AND TALK TOGETHER."

AND HE KILLED HIS BROTHER ABEL.



"I WILL GET EVEN WITH HIM," CAIN SAID TO HIMSELF. "I WILL FIND A WAY!" BUT EVEN HE DID NOT KNOW HOW HE WOULD GO ABOUT THIS

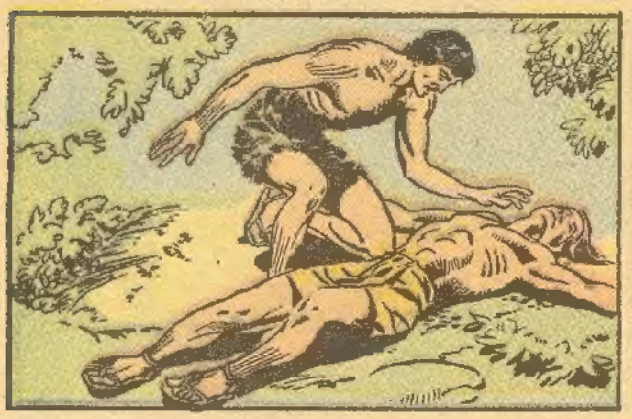
THE LORD LEFT CAIN ALONE TO MAKE UP HIS MIND. CAIN THOUGHT AND SCHEMED AND AT LAST HE KNEW WHAT HE WANTED TO DO.



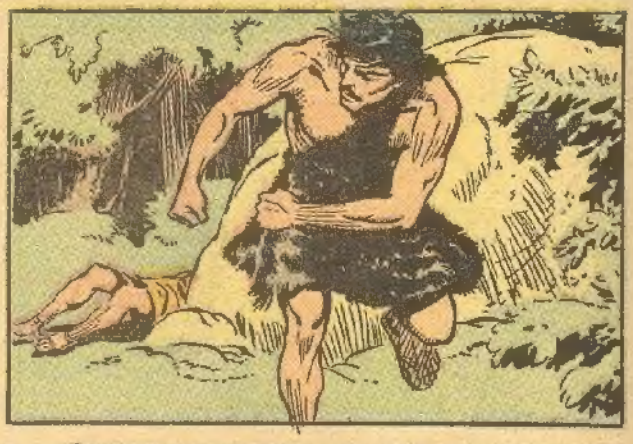
ABEL WALKED AHEAD OF CAIN, TALKING ABOUT THE BLESSINGS OF THE LORD. BUT CAIN BENT DOWN TO PICK UP A ROCK.

THIS WAS THE FIRST MURDER...AND CAIN WAS HORRIFIED WHEN HE SAW WHAT HE HAD DONE. HIS BROTHER COULD NOT MOVE AND COULD NOT SPEAK.

"AWAKE, ABEL!" CRIED CAIN, BUT HIS BROTHER DID NOT STIR.



AND CAIN FLED FROM THE SCENE OF THE CRIME.



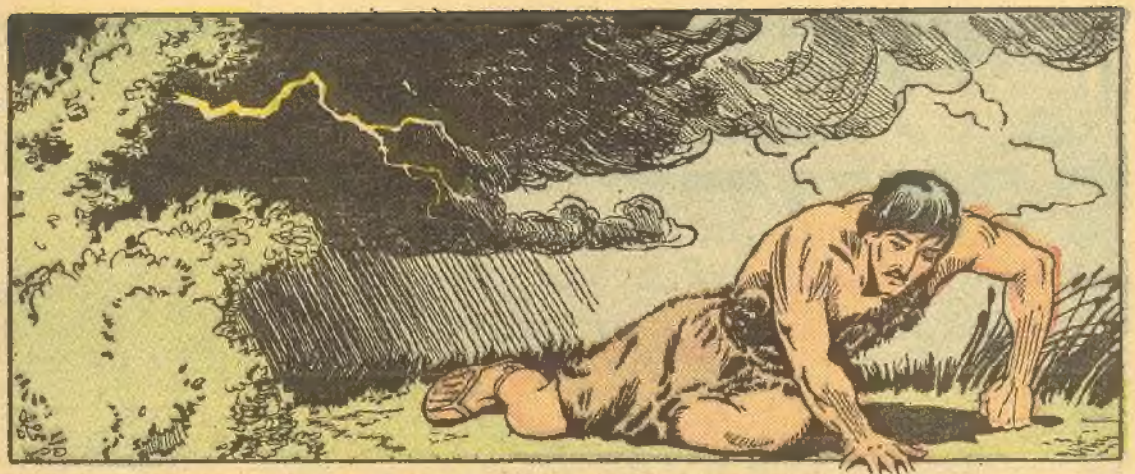
WHEN HE WAS OUT IN THE FIELDS AGAIN, THE LORD CAME TO CAIN, SAYING: "WHERE IS ABEL, YOUR BROTHER?"

CAIN'S SHREWD BRAIN WORKED QUICKLY, AND HE TRIED TO FOOL THE LORD. "AM I MY BROTHER'S KEEPER?" HE ASKED.

BUT THE LORD'S VOICE ROARED IN ANGER AT THE CRIMINAL. "WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?" HE CRIED. "THE VOICE OF YOUR BROTHER'S BLOOD CRIES OUT TO ME FROM THE GROUND."

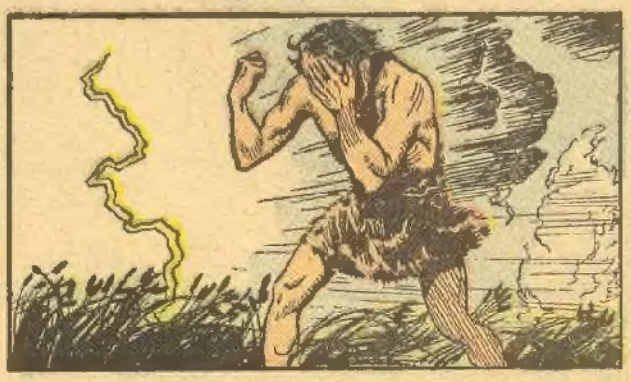
"NOW YOU ARE CURSED FROM THE EARTH WHICH HAS TAKEN ABEL'S BLOOD FROM YOUR HAND," SAID THE LORD. "FROM NOW ON WHEN YOU WORK THE EARTH IT SHALL NOT GIVE YOU ITS FOOD. YOU ARE AN OUTCAST UPON THE EARTH."

"BEGONE!" CRIED THE LORD. "YOU ARE A FUGITIVE AND A VAGABOND UPON THE EARTH."



BUT CAIN SUFFERED FOR HIS GREAT CRIME. HE TURNED TO THE LORD FOR A BIT OF HIS MERCY. "MY PUNISHMENT IS GREATER THAN I CAN BEAR," HE WEPT.

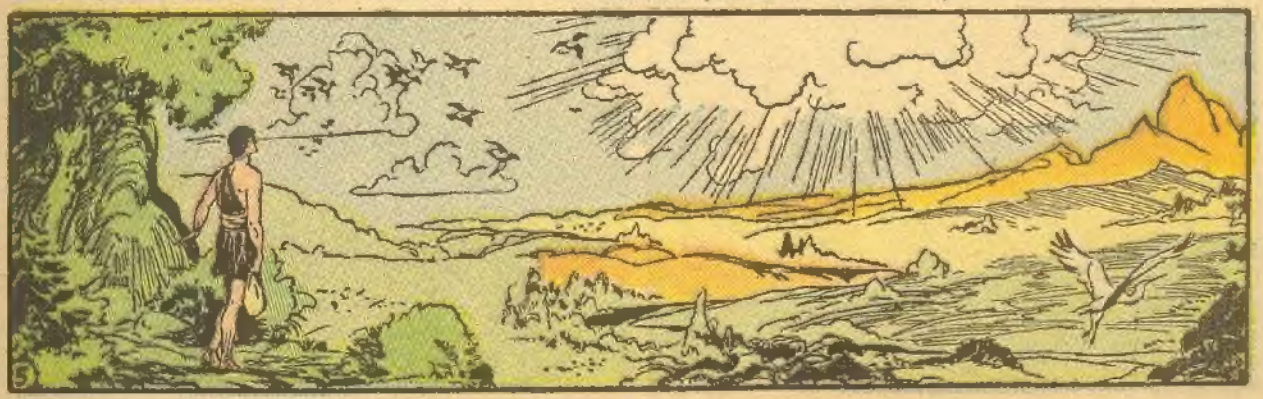
"YOU HAVE DRIVEN ME OUT FROM THE FACE OF THE EARTH, AND FROM YOUR FACE I SHALL BE HIDDEN. I SHALL BE AN OUTCAST AND EVERYONE WILL TRY TO KILL ME."



BUT THE LORD REPLIED: "NO. VENGEANCE SHALL BE TAKEN ON THE MAN WHO KILLS CAIN." AND THE LORD SET A MARK ON CAIN SO THAT ANYONE WHO FOUND HIM WOULD NOT KILL HIM.

"NOW, BE GONE!" CRIED THE LORD, AND CAIN LEFT THE LAND OF EDEN WITH ALL ITS RICHES, ITS FERTILE FIELDS, ITS ANIMALS OF THE RICH PASTURES.

AND HE WENT TO LIVE IN THE LAND OF NOD, EAST OF EDEN. THE FIRST CRIME HAD BEEN DONE, THE FIRST LIFE HAD BEEN TAKEN. MANKIND BEGAN ITS GREAT HISTORY OF JOYS AND SORROWS. BUT THE LORD GOD WATCHED OVER EVERY ONE OF HIS CHILDREN, GREAT AND SMALL, FOR ALL TIME.

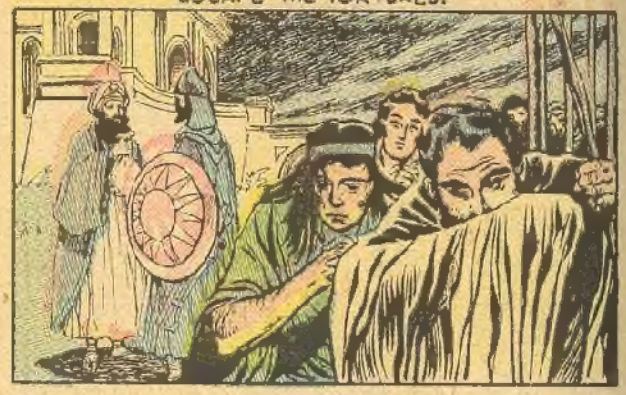


QUEEN ESTHER

THE BOOK OF ESTHER

THE JEWS OF ANCIENT PERSIA WERE PERSECUTED BY THEIR MASTERS FOR THEIR BELIEF IN THE LORD JEHOVAH.

BUT THERE WAS A RICH JEW NAMED MORDECAI WHO USED HIS MONEY TO HELP HIS FELLOW BELIEVERS TO ESCAPE THE TORTURES.



BESIDES HIS RELIGION, THERE WERE TWO THINGS MORDECAI HELD SACRED. ONE WAS HIS LOYALTY TO THE KING OF PERSIA, AHASUERUS...

THE OTHER WAS HIS LOVE FOR HIS ADOPTED DAUGHTER ESTHER, MOST BEAUTIFUL IN ALL THE KINGDOM OF PERSIA.

ILLUSTRATED BY [illegible]

MORDECAI THANKED THE LORD FOR HIS BLESSINGS OF MONEY TO HELP HIS FELLOW BELIEVERS, OF A DAUGHTER WHO LOVED HIM AND OF A KING THAT HE COULD SERVE AND TEACH TO RESPECT THE RIGHTS OF THE JEWS TO WORSHIP THE TRUE GOD.

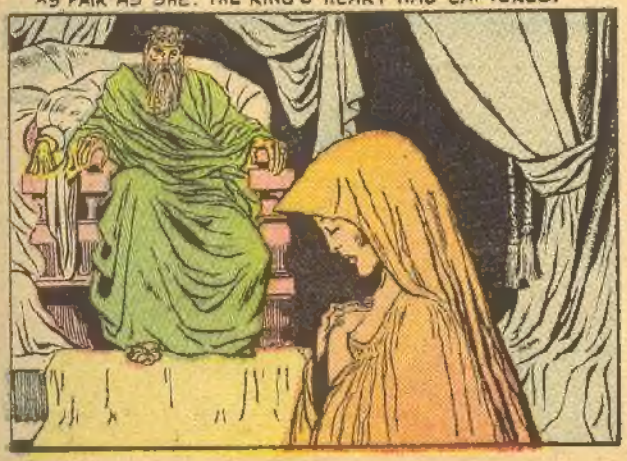
BUT HIS GREATEST ENEMY WAS HAMAN, CHIEF OF THE PRINCES, WHO HATED THE JEWS AND MORDECAI WORST OF ALL.

ONE DAY THE KING GAVE A FEAST FOR ALL HIS LORDS AND NOBLES. HE GAVE ORDERS THAT HIS BEAUTIFUL QUEEN, VASHTI, SHOULD COME SO HIS SUBJECTS COULD ADMIRE HER LOVELINESS. 'SHE REFUSES TO APPEAR' SAID HIS SERVANTS, AND THE KING WAS ENRAGED.

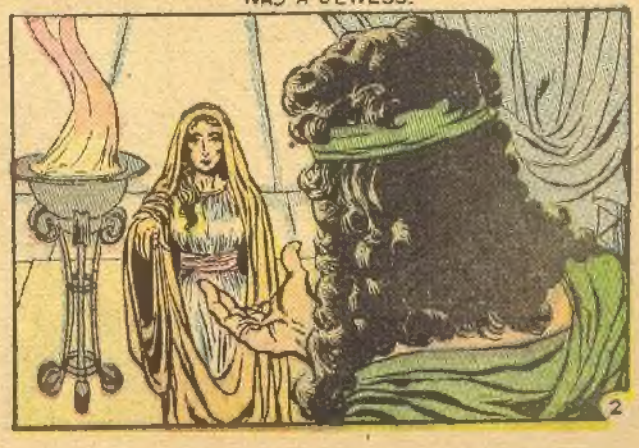
"I SHALL CHOOSE ANOTHER TO BE QUEEN IN HER PLACE!" HE CRIED. "BRING THE FAIREST MAIDS OF MY KINGDOM TO ME!"

THE MOST BEAUTIFUL GIRLS IN PERSIA WERE PARADED BEFORE THE KING, BUT THERE WERE NONE THAT HE LIKED.

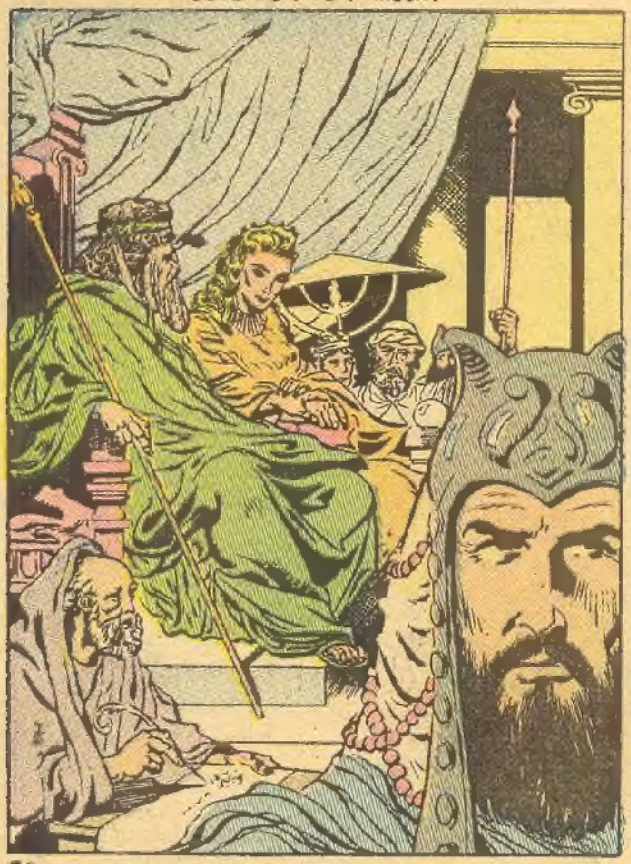
AND THEN HE SAW ESTHER. NEVER HAD THERE BEEN ONE AS FAIR AS SHE. THE KING'S HEART WAS CAPTURED.



"THIS IS THE ONE!" HE CRIED AS HE CHOSE ESTHER TO BE HIS QUEEN. BUT SHE DID NOT TELL AHASUERUS THAT SHE WAS A JEWESS.



So the adopted daughter of Mordecai sat on the throne of Persia beside the king who grew to love her very much.



Unknown to the king, Mordecai told Esther of the danger to the life of Ahasuerus. The two officers were arrested and executed.

But Mordecai would not obey the order. "I bow only to my God and my king," he said. "Not to one such as you!" This angered the prince. "You and all your people shall pay for this!" he cried.

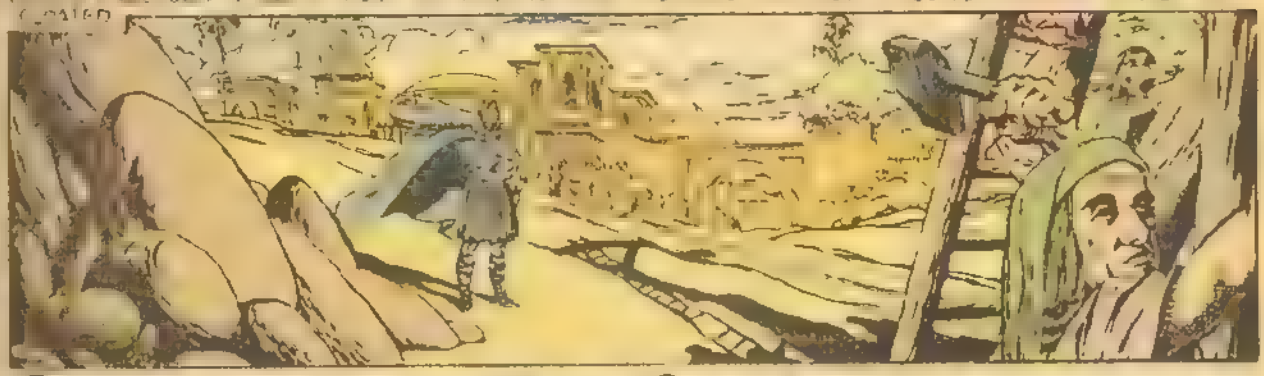
Haman, chief of the princes, wanted more power and glory, but the king was in his way. So he told two of his officers to kill the king.

But while the officers were plotting the murder, Mordecai overheard them.

But the king still did not know of Haman's treachery. Instead, to honor the prince still more, he ordered all his subjects to bow down to Haman.

Haman obtained the king's authority to do what he wanted with the Jews. Ahasuerus did not know that the prince planned to kill them all in revenge against Mordecai.

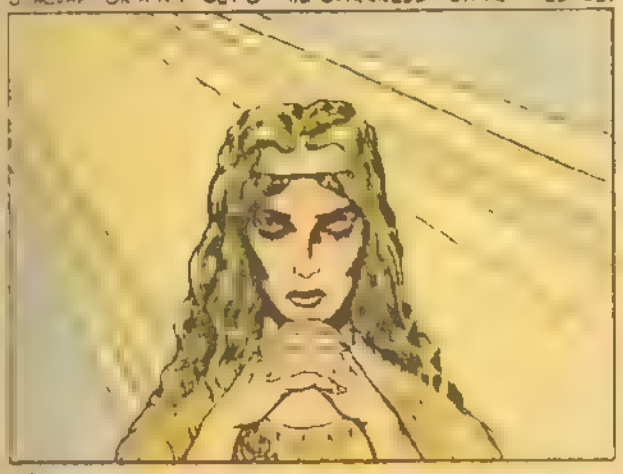
HAMAN ORDERED A GALLOWS BUILT ON WHICH TO HANG THE JEWS. 'MORDECAI WILL BE THE FIRST TO DIE.' HE BOASTED.



BUT WORD CAME TO MORDECA OF HAMAN'S EVIL SCHEME. "THERE IS ONLY ONE PERSON WHO CAN SAVE OUR PEOPLE," HE SAID, "MY DAUGHTER, QUEEN ESTHER."

SO HE TOLD THE QUEEN OF HAMAN'S PLOT AND OF THE WAY THE PRINCE WAS USING THE KING'S AUTHORITY. "I WILL FIND A WAY TO SAVE US," SHE SAID. "GOD WILL HELP US."

THEN ESTHER, JEWISH QUEEN OF THE PERSIANS, PRAYED TO JEHOVAH FOR A WAY OUT OF THE DARKNESS FOR HER PEOPLE.



AND GOD HEARD HER. HE TOLD ESTHER TO ASK HAMAN AND THE KING TO A FEAST ON THE NEXT DAY. THEN ON THE NIGHT BEFORE THE FEAST GOD DID NOT BRING SLEEP TO THE KING. "LET THE CHRONICLES BE READ TO YOU," THE QUEEN SAID.

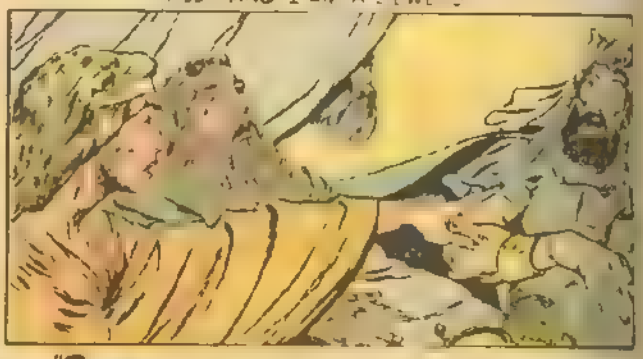
AND THE CHRONICLES TOLD OF HOW MORDECA HAD SAVED THE LIFE OF THE KING.

THEN AHASUERUS ORDERED HAMAN CALLED. "GIVE ALL HONORS AND GIFTS TO MORDECAI," HE SAID. AND HAMAN'S HATRED FOR THE JEWS GREW EVEN STRONGER. "MY TIME WILL COME SOON," HE THOUGHT.

THE NEXT DAY QUEEN ESTHER GAVE THE GREAT FEAST FOR THE KING AND HAMAN

THE QUEEN FACED HER KING "THIS IS THE LAST TIME WE SHALL BE TOGETHER," SHE SAID SADLY. "WHY DO YOU SAY THAT?" ASKED THE KING.

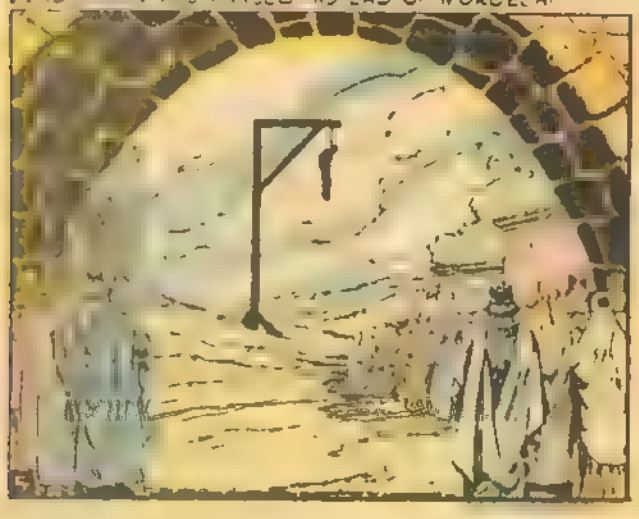
BECAUSE I SHALL DIE ON THE GALLOWS IF YOU ALLOW HAMAN TO DO AS HE WISHES WITH THE JEWS. HE PLANS TO KILL THEM ALL AND I AM A JEWESS."



AT THIS HAMAN JUMPED TO HIS FEET TO MAKE HIS ESCAPE. "SEIZE THE TRAITOR!" CRIED THE KING.

"SO THIS IS HOW YOU TRICKED ME INTO LETTING YOU DO AS YOU WILL," HE ROARED. "I WANT JUSTICE AND FREEDOM FOR THE JEWS. NOT DEATH. DEATH IS ONLY FOR TRAITORS SUCH AS ***YOU***!"

AND HAMAN WAS HANGED INSTEAD OF MORDECAI.

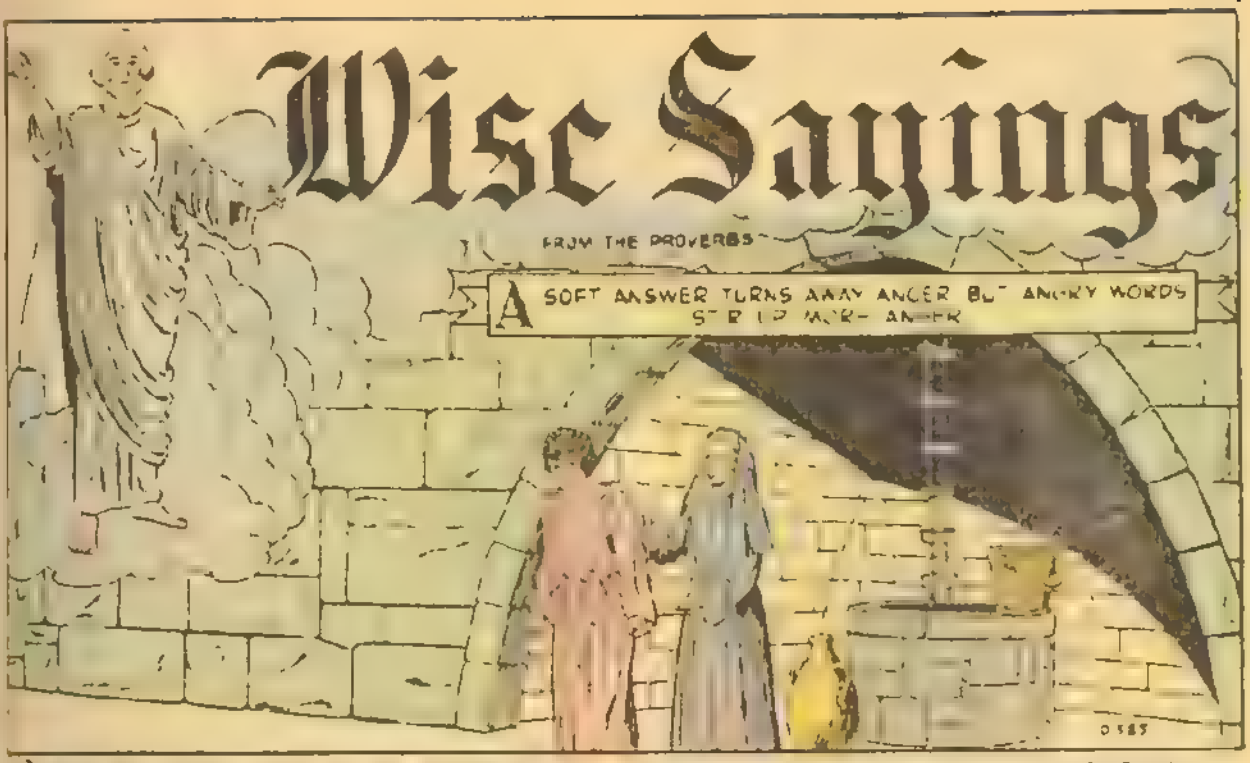


ONCE MORE THE CHOSEN PEOPLE OF GOD HAD BEEN SAVED. QUEEN ESTHER AND MORDECA THANKED JEHOVAH FOR HIS MERCY AND WATCHFULNESS OVER THEM.

Wise Sayings

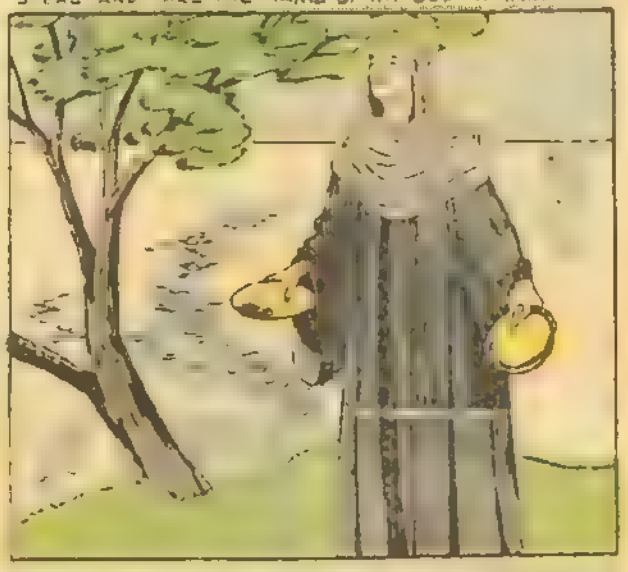
FROM THE PROVERBS

A SOFT ANSWER TURNS AWAY ANGER BUT ANGRY WORDS STIR UP MORE ANGER



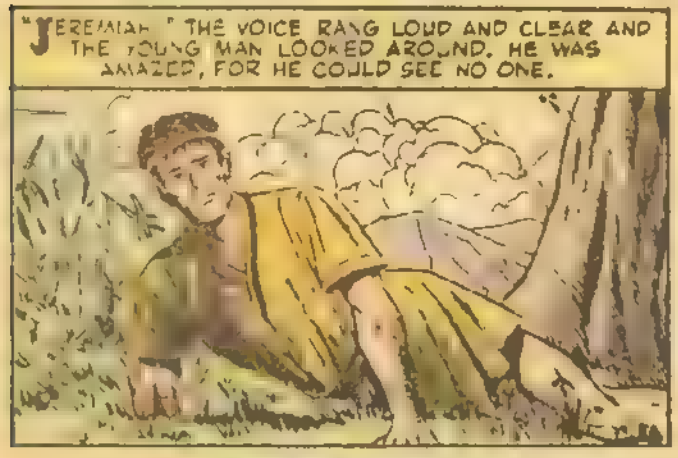
A GOOD NAME IS BETTER TO BE CHOSEN THAN GREAT RICHES AND LOVING FAVOUR RATHER THAN SILVER AND GOLD.

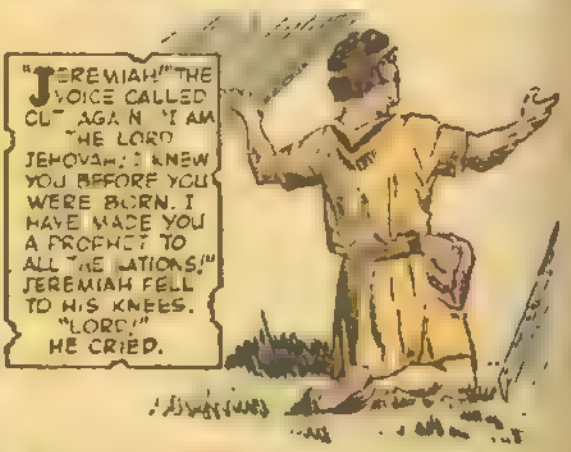
REMOVE FROM ME VANITY AND LIES: GIVE ME NEITHER POVERTY NOR RICHES FEED ME WITH FOOD BEST FOR ME: LEST I BE FULL AND DENY THEE, AND SAY "WHO IS THE LORD?" OR LEST I BE POOR AND STEAL AND TAKE THE NAME OF MY GOD IN VAIN.

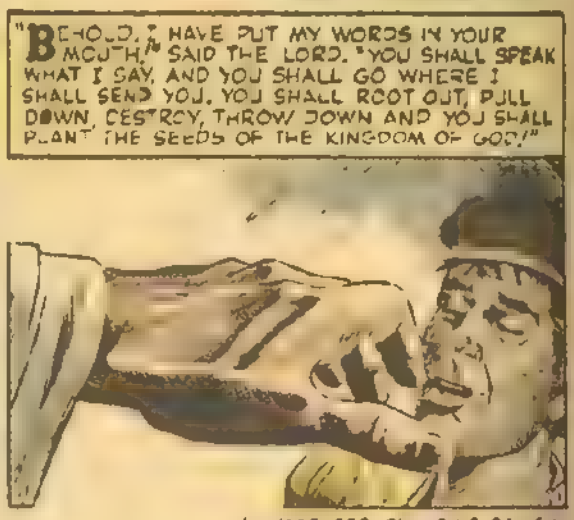


WHO CAN FIND A VIRTUOUS WOMAN? HER PRICE IS FAR MORE THAN RUBIES SHE SEEKS WOOL AND FLAX AND WORKS WILLINGLY WITH HER HANDS STRENGTH AND HONOR ARE HER CLOTHING SHE TAKES CARE OF HER HOUSEHOLD HER CHILDREN CALL HER BLESSED, HER HUSBAND ALSO, AND HE PRAISES HER.

The Fall of Judah

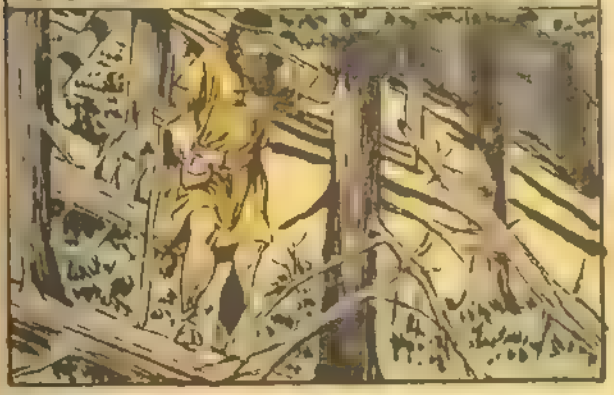



"JEREMIAH!" THE VOICE CALLED OUT AGAIN. "I AM THE LORD JEHOVAH: I KNEW YOU BEFORE YOU WERE BORN. I HAVE MADE YOU A PROPHET TO ALL THE NATIONS!" JEREMIAH FELL TO HIS KNEES. "LORD!" HE CRIED.


"BEHOLD, I HAVE PUT MY WORDS IN YOUR MOUTH," SAID THE LORD. "YOU SHALL SPEAK WHAT I SAY, AND YOU SHALL GO WHERE I SHALL SEND YOU. YOU SHALL ROOT OUT, PULL DOWN, DESTROY, THROW DOWN AND YOU SHALL PLANT THE SEEDS OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD!"

ILLUSTRATED BY LOUIS RAVIELL

SO THE LORD TOLD JEREMIAH WHAT TO DO AND WHAT TO SAY. THEN THE NEW PROPHET SET OUT FOR JERUSALEM AND HIS DESTINY.



JEHOIAKIM HAD BEEN MADE KING OF JUDAH BY THE BABYLONIANS. THE PEOPLE OF JUDAH HAD FORGOTTEN THE WAYS OF THE LORD AND BOWED DOWN TO THE TYRANT.

BUT JEREMIAH APPEARED AND WARNED THEM THAT JUDAH WOULD FALL AND THAT JERUSALEM WAS DOOMED UNLESS THE PEOPLE MENDED THEIR WAYS. "HEAR YE THE WORD OF THE LORD," HE CRIED. "KEEP HOLY THE SABBATH DAY. DO NOT CARRY BURDENS ON THIS DAY."

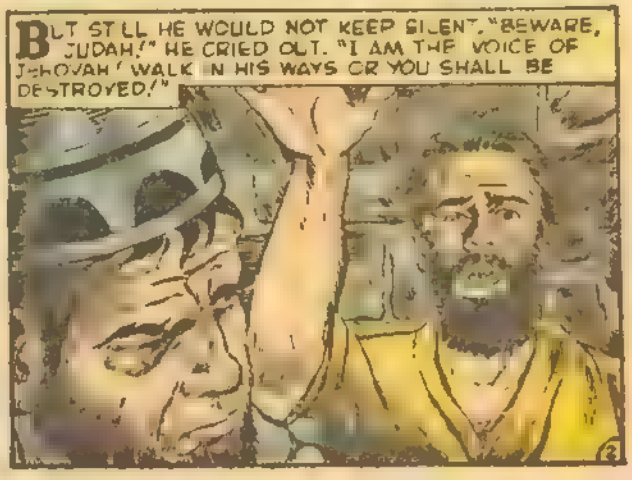
"IF YOU DO AS THE LORD COMMANDS," SAID THE PROPHET, "THIS CITY SHALL REMAIN FOREVER. BUT IF YOU DO NOT LISTEN TO THE WORD OF GOD, THEN HE WILL DESTROY THE PALACES OF JERESALEM!"

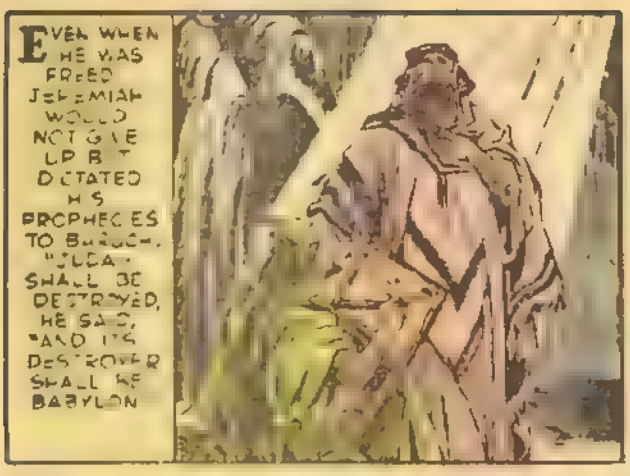
THE SON OF THE CHIEF GOVERNOR OF THE TEMPLE HEARD JEREMIAH, AND SAID, "THIS PROPHET IS DANGEROUS. HE SPREADS TROUBLE AMONG OUR PEOPLE. SEIZE HIM!"

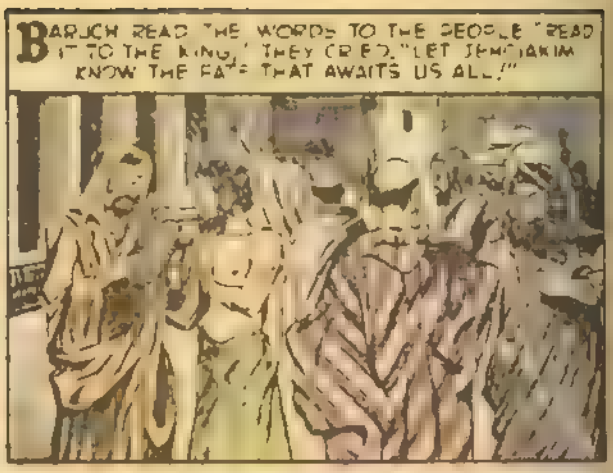
JEREMIAH WAS BEATEN.

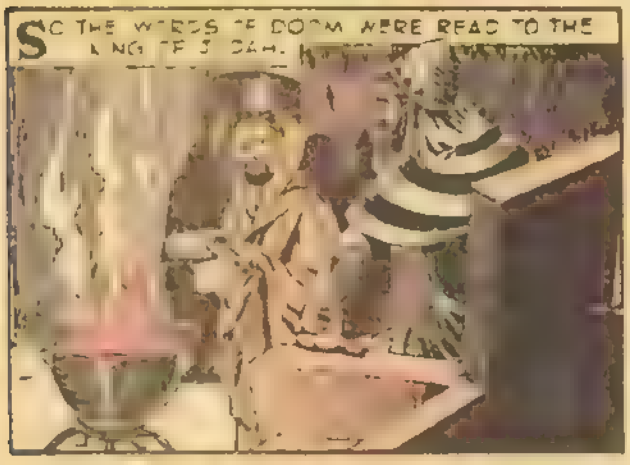
HE WAS MADE PRISONER IN THE STOCKS.

BUT STILL HE WOULD NOT KEEP SILENT. "BEWARE, JUDAH!" HE CRIED OUT. "I AM THE VOICE OF JEHOVAH! WALK IN HIS WAYS OR YOU SHALL BE DESTROYED!"

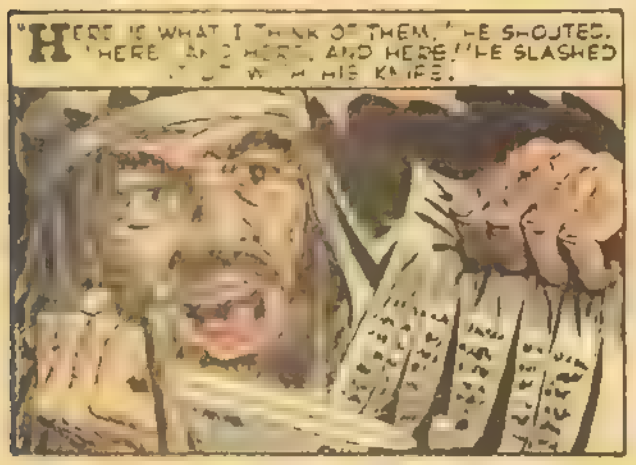



EVEN WHEN HE WAS FREED JEREMIAH WOULD NOT GIVE UP BUT DICTATED HIS PROPHECIES TO BARUCH. "JUDAH SHALL BE DESTROYED, HE SAID, "AND ITS DESTROYER SHALL BE BABYLON


BARUCH READ THE WORDS TO THE PEOPLE "READ IT TO THE KING," THEY CRIED. "LET JEHOIAKIM KNOW THE FATE THAT AWAITS US ALL!"


SO THE WORDS OF DOOM WERE READ TO THE KING OF JUDAH.

"I WILL SHOW YOU WHAT I THINK OF THE WORDS OF JEREMIAH," HE CRIED AND HE SEIZED THE ROLL OF PARCHMENT


"HERE IS WHAT I THINK OF THEM," HE SHOUTED. "HERE AND HERE!" HE SLASHED WITH HIS KNIFE.

"THAT'S WHAT I THINK OF THESE WORDS OF DOOM," CRIED THE KING AS HE THREW THE

BUT FAR OFF IN THE DISTANCE WISE HEARD THE

ON CAME THE CONQUERORS. THEY CRUSHED WHATEVER THEY FOUND IN THEIR WAY AND AMONG THESE WAS THE GOVERNOR'S SON.

DOWN CAME THE GREAT BUILDINGS AND TEMPLES. THE FIRE HAD BEEN LIGHTED AND THE PALACES DESTROYED AS JEREMIAH HAD FORETOLD!

THEN THE BABYLONIANS TOOK THE TREASURES OF JERUSALEM AND CAPTURED MANY OF THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY AS SLAVES.

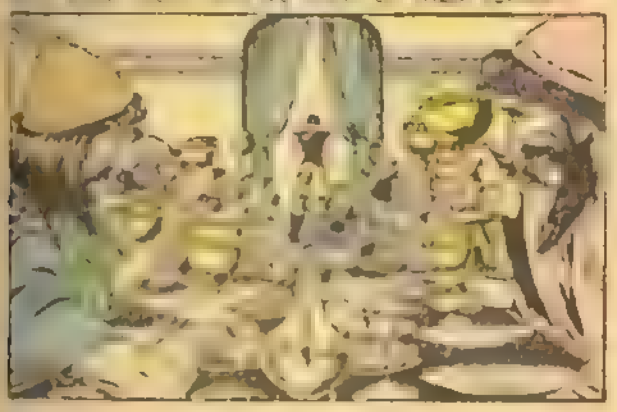
"JEREMIAH," CRIED THOSE WHO WERE LEFT BEHIND. "WHERE IS JEREMIAH? HE WAS RIGHT. HE WILL TELL US WHAT TO DO."

THEN JEREMIAH SPOKE. "OBEY YOUR MASTERS," HE CRIED. "JERUSALEM WILL SOON BE NO MORE. IT WILL BE COMPLETELY DESTROYED. THE FUTURE OF OUR PEOPLE IS WITH THOSE WHO ARE CAPTIVES IN BABYLON. IT IS OF NO USE FOR US TO FIGHT."

ONCE AGAIN THE PEOPLE WOULD NOT LISTEN. "HE IS A TRAITOR!" THEY SAID, SO THEY CAST THE PROPHET INTO A DEEP PIT.

SUCH WAS THE SUFFERING OF THE PROPHET OF JEHOVAH UNTIL HE WAS RESCUED BY AN ETHIOPIAN OF THE KING'S PALACE.
HOWEVER, HE STILL REMAINED IN THE PRISON COURTYARD THEN, ELEVEN YEARS LATER THE SOUNDS OF MARCHING FEET WERE HEARD AGAIN "IT IS THE DOOM OF JUDAH!" HE CRIED.
NEBUCHADNEZZAR HAD RETURNED, THIS TIME TO COMPLETELY DESTROY THE CITY
MANY OF THE PEOPLE FLED AWAY TOWARD EGYPT. THEY LOOKED BACK TO SEE THE SMOKE AND RUIN OF THEIR BELOVED CITY
THIS WAS THE CITY THAT THEY HAD BETRAYED BY FORGETTING THE WORD OF GOD AND FAILING TO HEED THE VOICE OF THE PROPHET. JEREMIAH WAS FORCED TO FLEE WITH THE FUGITIVES INTO EGYPT.
THERE HE WAS STONED TO DEATH BY THOSE WHO BLAMED HIM FOR THE FATE OF JUDAH, RATHER THAN BLAME THEMSELVES.
BUT WHEN HE WAS DEAD HIS SPIRIT ROSE UP TO STAY AT THE SIDE OF THE LORD GOD JEHOVAH WHOSE SERVANT AND PROPHET JEREMIAH HAD BEEN.

Daniel in the Lion's Den



ILLUSTRATED BY HARRY ANDERSON

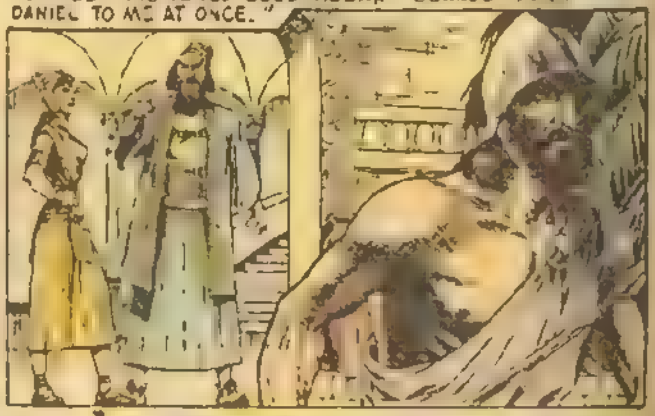
A HAND APPEARED, WRITING STRANGE WORDS HIGH ON THE WALL OF THE BANQUET ROOM. THE KING AND HIS GUEST STARED AND TREMBLED AT THE SIGHT.

AND THEN THE HAND VANISHED, LEAVING THE WORDS "WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THOSE WORDS?" CRIED THE FRIGHTENED KING. BUT NO ONE KNEW.

BELSHAZZAR'S WISE MEN, HIS PRIESTS AND THE ROYAL ASTROLOGERS CAME. BUT THEY COULD NOT TELL HIM THE MEANING OF THE WRITING ON THE WALL. "I MUST KNOW WHAT IT MEANS!" SCREAMED THE KING. "WHO IN ALL MY KINGDOM CAN TELL ME?"

BUT THERE WAS NO ONE. THEN THE QUEEN SAID TO BELSHAZZAR "THERE IS AMONG YOUR SLAVES A YOUNG JEW WHO HAS THE WISDOM OF THE GODS."

"HIS NAME," SAID THE QUEEN, "IS DANIEL. WHY NOT ASK HIM?" "I WILL," ANSWERED BELSHAZZAR. "GUARDS! BRING DANIEL TO ME AT ONCE."



THE YOUTH WAS BROUGHT INTO THE PRESENCE OF THE PANIC-STRICKEN KING. "THAT WRITING ON THE WALL," BELSHAZZAR DEMANDED, "WHAT DOES IT MEAN?"

AND DANIEL LOOKED AT THE WORDS THEN ANSWERED "THEY READ ***YOU ARE WEIGHED IN THE BALANCE AND ARE FOUND WANTING!*** YOUR KINGDOM SHALL SOON BE NO MORE AND GOD WILL DIVIDE IT AMONG THE NATIONS."

BELSHAZZAR TREMBLED AS DANIEL CONTINUED: THE MEDES AND THE PERSIANS SHALL CONQUER BABYLON AND THEY SHALL REIGN!" THE KING CRIED OUT: "NEVER!"

BUT THE NEXT INSTANT THE SOLDIERS OF THE MEDES AND THE PERSIANS BURST INTO THE GREAT HALL

BELSHAZZAR WAS KILLED ON THE SPOT...

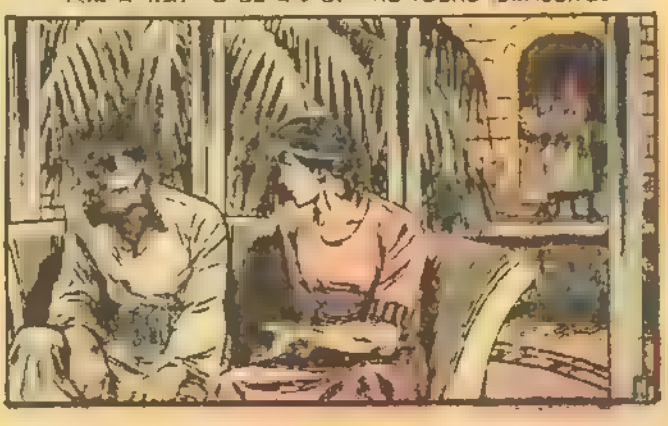
AND THE CITY WAS TAKEN OVER BY THE CONQUERORS.

INTO THE HALL CAME DARIUS, THE MEDE "I AM THE NEW KING OF BABYLON," HE CRIED, AND DANIEL'S PROPHECY WAS FULFILLED.

"WHO IS THIS?" ASKED DARIUS POINTING TO DANIEL. "HE IS THE ONE WHO PROPHESIED OUR GREAT VICTORY," SAID A SOLDIER.

"THEN YOU SHALL BE HONORED AMONG THE NOBLES OF MY KINGDOM," SAID THE KING TO DANIEL "ONE SUCH AS YOU MUST BE HOLY IN THE WAYS OF THE LORD."

SO DANIEL BECAME DARIUS' FAVORITE. BUT THERE WERE THOSE WHO WERE ENVIOUS AND THEY LOOKED FOR A WAY TO BE RID OF THE YOUNG ISRAELITE.



"THERE IS ONLY ONE WAY TO TRAP THIS HOLY MAN," SAID ONE OF THE NOBLES. "AND THAT IS THROUGH HIS RELIGION."

"THREE TIMES A DAY DANIEL PRAYS TO HIS GOD AND NOTHING WILL STOP HIM. WE WILL PERSUADE DARIUS TO SIGN A DECREE THAT WILL BRING PUNISHMENT ON HIM."

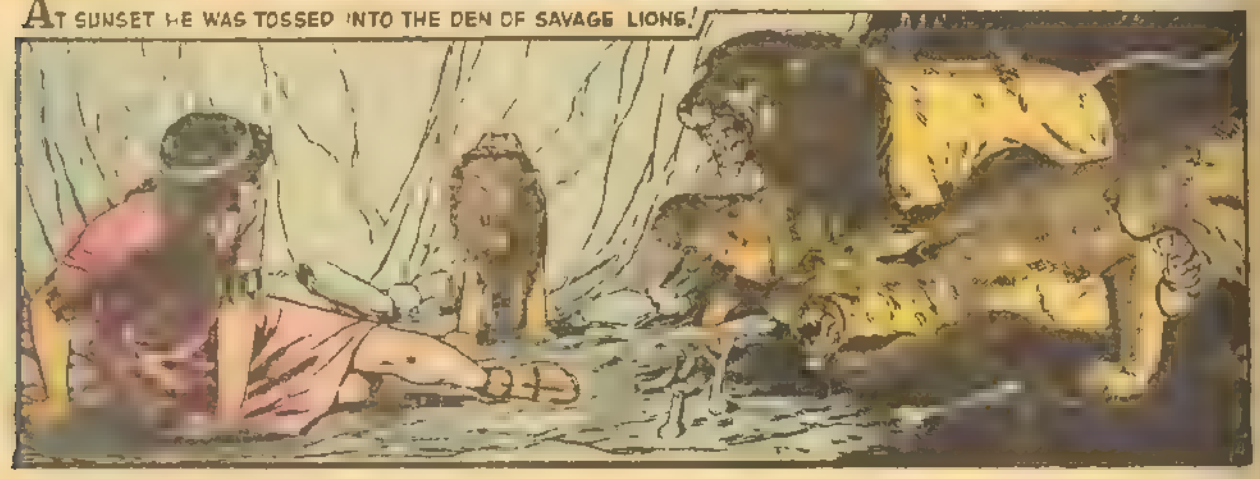
THIS DECREE STATED THAT ANYONE WHO PRAYED OR SOUGHT FOR DIVINE FAVOR, EXCEPT THROUGH THE KING, WOULD BE GUILTY OF TREASONABLE INTENT. FOR PUNISHMENT HE WOULD BE TOSSED TO THE LIONS. DARIUS TAKING THE ADVICE OF HIS NOBLES, SIGNED THE DECREE.

THEN, AT THE FIRST OPPORTUNITY, DANIEL, AT HIS PRAYERS, WAS POINTED OUT TO DARIUS. "THERE IS THE FIRST CRIMINAL BY THE NEW DECREE," CRIED THE NOBLES. "SEE, HE PRAYS DIRECTLY TO HIS GOD AND NOT THROUGH HIS KING!"

DARIUS WAS DISHEARTENED, BUT HIS DECREE COULD NOT BE BROKEN. HE WEPT AS HE ORDERED THE EXTREME PUNISHMENT FOR HIS FAVORITE: "FEED HIM TO THE LIONS!"

SO DANIEL WAS TAKEN AWAY..

AT SUNSET HE WAS TOSSED INTO THE DEN OF SAVAGE LIONS!



BUT DANIEL HAD FAITH IN HIS GOD, AND HE KNEW HE HAD DONE NO WRONG. FEARLESSLY, HE FACED THE LIONS.

THE LIONS WERE SET TO LEAP ON DANIEL WHEN AN ANGEL OF GOD APPEARED AND SHUT THE MOUTHS OF THE LIONS.

DARIUS COULD NOT SLEEP THAT NIGHT, THINKING OF THE TERRIBLE FATE OF HIS FAVORITE.

SUDDENLY HE LEFT HIS BED AND RAN TOWARD THE DEN, CALLING "DANIEL! DANIEL!"

HE THREW OPEN THE DOOR AND SAW AN UNUSUAL SIGHT. DANIEL AND THE LIONS WERE ENTIRELY AT PEACE WITH ONE ANOTHER. "MY GOD SENT AN ANGEL TO QUIET THE LIONS," SAID DANIEL, "SO I AM UNHURT."

AT THIS, DARIUS, HAPPY ONCE MORE HAD DANIEL LIFTED FROM THE DEN. AND THE KING ORDERED HIS GUARDS TO THROW HIS ENEMIES TO THE LIONS IN PLACE OF THIS HOLY MAN."

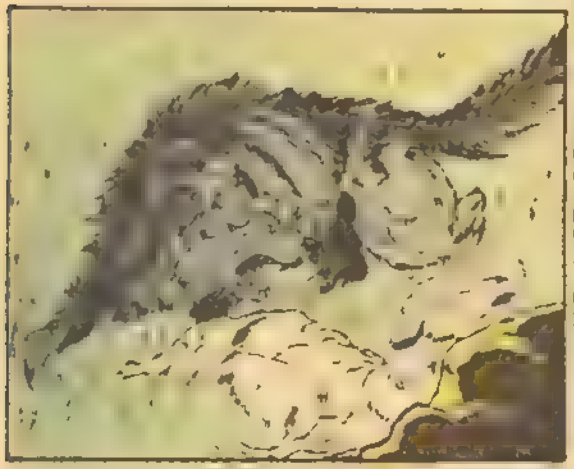
AND SO THE LORD PROTECTED HIS SERVANT, AND DESTROYED HIS ENEMIES.

The Good Shepherd

JOHN 10 11-16

AND JESUS SAID I AM THE GOOD SHEPHERD AND THOSE THAT FOLLOW ME ARE MY FLOCK

WHEN THE WOLF COMES TO ATTACK A FLOCK THE SHEPHERD WHO IS ONLY HIRED TO TEND THE SHEEP BUT WHO DOES NOT OWN THEM SEES THE WOLF AND HE IS AFRAID SO HE RUNS AWAY HE DOES NOT REALLY CARE FOR THE SHEEP THEN THE WOLF ATTACKS THE SHEEP AND SCATTERS THEM



BUT I AM THE GOOD SHEPHERD I KNOW MY SHEEP AND MY SHEEP KNOW ME EVEN AS THE FATHER KNOWS ME AND I KNOW THE FATHER AND I LAY DOWN MY LIFE FOR MY SHEEP

STATEMENT REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF AUGUST 24, 1912, AS AMENDED BY THE ACTS OF MARCH 3, 1933, AND JULY 2, 1946

(Title 39, United States Code, Section 233)

SHOWING THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, AND CIRCULATION OF

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1. The names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are: Publisher, OFFICIAL MAGAZINE CORP., 270 Park Avenue, New York, N.Y.; Editor, STAN LEE, 270 Park Avenue, New York, N.Y., Managing editor, MARTIN GOODMAN, 270 Park Avenue, New York, N.Y., Business manager, MONROE FROEHLICH, JR., 270 Park Avenue, New York, N.Y.

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5. The average number of copies of each issue of this publication sold or distributed, through the mails or otherwise, to paid subscribers during the 12 months preceding the date shown above was: (This information is required from daily, weekly, semiweekly, and triweekly newspapers only.)

(Signed) MONROE FROEHLICH, JR.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 21st day of September, 1953

(SEAL) TESS HARWOOD (GOLDBERG)

Notary Public, State of New York
No. 03 6797825
Qualified in Bronx County
Certs. filed with Bronx County Reg. and New York Co. Clk. & Reg.
Commission Expires March 30, 1954

Jesus and the Pharisee

A CERTAIN PHARISEE NAMED SIMON HEARD JESUS PREACHING TO THE PEOPLE. "THIS IS A FINE AND NOBLE MAN," HE SAID, "I WILL BE HONORED TO TO HAVE HIM AS MY GUEST."

SO WHEN JESUS WAS ALONE, SIMON SAID TO HIM "COME INTO MY HOUSE FOR MEAT AND DRINK

JESUS KNEW THAT SIMON WANTED TO IMPRESS HIS FRIENDS WITH A FAMOUS GUEST, BUT HE WENT ALONG ANYWAY. JESUS KNEW THAT THERE WERE MANY WAYS TO SAVE A SINNER AND HE WOULD USE THEM ALL

SO SIMON BROUGHT JESUS TO HIS HOUSE AND ESCORTED HIM PROUDLY INTO T "PREPARE THE TABLE!" HE CRIED "FOR I BRING THE MASTER"

ILLUSTRATED BY PAUL REINMAN

"WE HEAR THAT YOU HAVE ANSWERS TO ALL PROBLEMS" SAID A GUEST TO JESUS "TELL US ABOUT THEM" SIMON ANGRILY SAID "BE SILENT! LET HIM TALK TO US AS HE WILL NOT AS YOU WILL HE IS MY GUEST AT MY TABLE"

THERE ARE SOME WHO SAY THAT I SHOULD NOT EAT WITH SUCH AS YOU" JESUS SAID "BUT I AM A FRIEND TO ALL MEN" AND SIMON LAUGHED AT THE GUESTS WHO HAD TRIED TO TRAP HIM

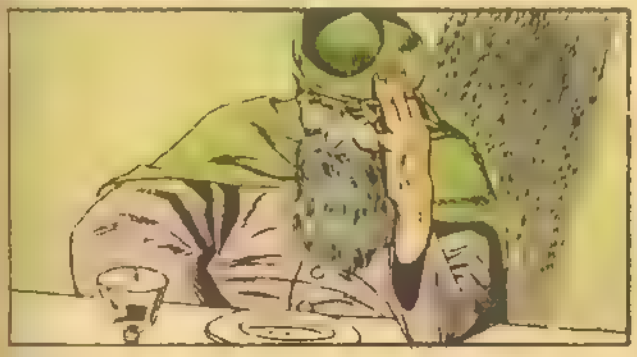
THEN, SIMON AND THE GUESTS LOOKED UP IN ANGER A WOMAN IN RAGS HAD ENTERED THE HOUSE OF SIMON AND HER EYES WERE FILLED WITH TEARS AS SHE LOOKED AT JESUS "THIS IS A SINFUL WOMAN" THEY CRIED "BE GONE!" BUT JESUS SAID "SHE IS A SORROWFUL WOMAN LET HER STAY"

SO WHILE JESUS CONTINUED TALKING TO THE [illegible] THE WOMAN KNELT AT HIS FEET WEEPING BECAUSE OF HER SINS

HER TEARS FELL ON JESUS FEET AND SHE WIPED THEM AWAY WITH HER HAIR

THEN SHE KISSED HIS FEET AND ANOINTED THEM WITH AN OINTMENT

BUT SIMON WAS NOT PLEASED BY WHAT HE SAW HE SAID TO HIMSELF IF THIS MAN WERE REALLY A PROPHET, HE WOULD HAVE KNOWN THAT THIS WOMAN IS A SINNER AND HE WOULD NOT LET HER TOUCH HIM "

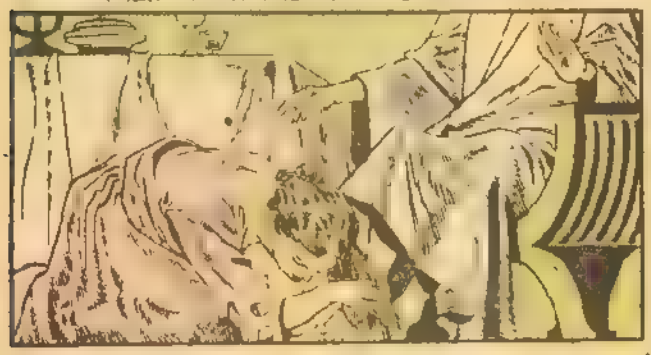


BUT JESUS KNEW WHAT SIMON WAS THINKING AND HE SAID 'SIMON I HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY TO YOU' AND SIMON SAID 'MASTER SAY ON.

JESUS SAID: "THERE WAS A MAN TO WHOM TWO MEN OWED MONEY ONE OWED HIM FIVE HUNDRED PENCE AND THE OTHER OWED HIM FIFTY HE SAW THAT THEY COULD NOT PAY HIM, SO HE FORGAVE THEM BOTH. NOW TELL ME, WHICH OF THEM WOULD LOVE HIM THE MOST?"

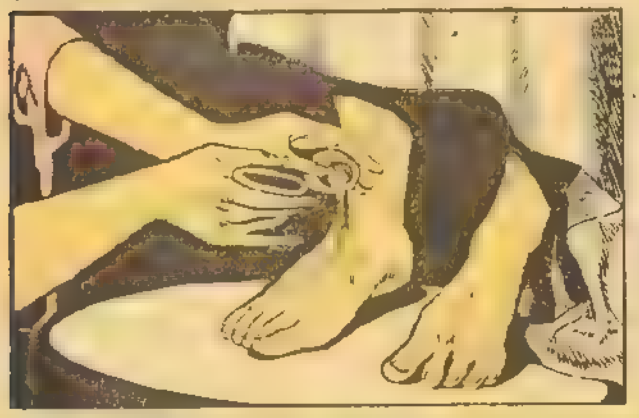
AND SIMON REPLIED 'THE ONE WHO OWED HIM THE MOST I SUPPOSE." JESUS SAID: "YOU ARE RIGHT AND THIS IS THE SAME." BUT THE GUESTS SAID "HOW IS THIS THE SAME?"

JESUS SAID: "DO YOU SEE THIS WOMAN? WHEN I CAME HERE, YOU GAVE ME NO WATER FOR MY FEET, BUT SHE WASHED THEM W TH TEARS AND WIPED THEM WITH THE HAIRS OF HER HEAD "

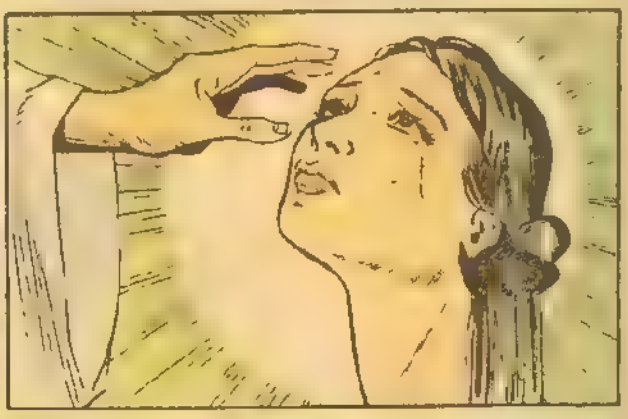


"YOU GAVE ME NO KISS, BUT SINCE SHE CAME IN, THIS WOMAN HAS NOT STOPPED KISSING MY FEET "

"YOU DID NOT ANOINT MY HEAD WITH OIL BUT THIS WOMAN HAS ANOINTED MY FEET WITH O NTMENT "



"SO I SAY TO YOU: HER SINS, WHICH ARE MANY, ARE FORG VEN, FOR SHE LOVES ME MUCH "



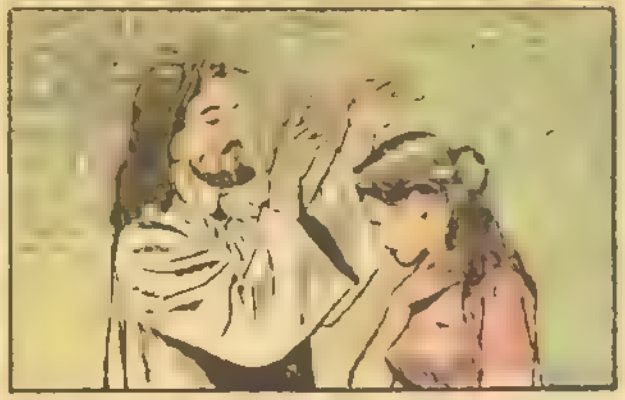
AND HE SAID TO THE WOMAN, 'YOUR S NS ARE FORGIVEN. "

BUT THE GUESTS GRUMBLED AMO G THEMSELVES AT THIS PERSON WHO FORGAVE EVEN S NS.

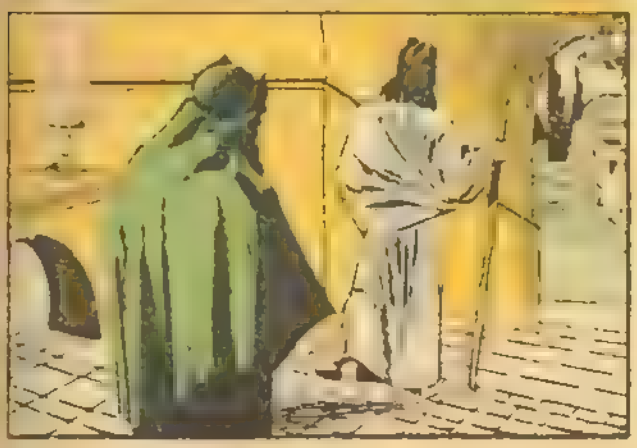
[illegible] OF THEMSELVES AND OF THEIR HOST SIMON. THEY [illegible] JESUS "YOU SPEAK IN RIDDLES AND [illegible]

SO HE T SAID JESUS "THEN JEWIE THESE FRIENDS [illegible] EAT YOUR MEAT AND DRINK WINE B T WHO HAVE NO UNDERSTANDING IN THE R HEARTS AND SOULS

TO THE WOMAN JESUS SAID "YOUR SINS ARE FORGIVEN YOUR FAITH HAS SAVED YOU [illegible] PEACE"



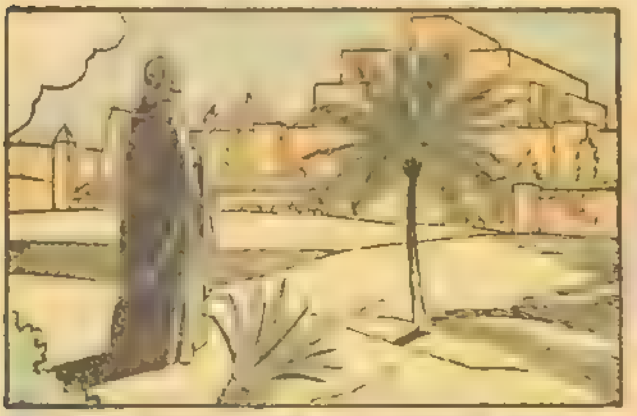
AND SIMON FOLLOWED THE MASTER ON HIS MISSION



BUT THE FALSE FRIENDS WERE LEFT BEHIND FOR THEIR HEARTS COULD NOT SEE THE MEANING OF THE COMING OF THE SON OF MAN

The True Believer

THE MISSION OF JESUS ON EARTH CARRIED HIM TO MANY PLACES AMONG THESE WAS GALILEE



BUT THERE WERE ALSO THOSE WHO HAD BEEN TO JERUSALEM AND HAD SEEN [illegible] MIRACLES! THEY HAD SEEN HOW HE HAD CHANGED WATER INTO WINE AT THE MARRIAGE IN CANA

HE WENT THERE BECAUSE HE HAD LEARNED THAT A PROPHET IS WITHOUT HONOR IN HIS OWN COUNTRY AND THERE WERE MANY OF HIS OWN PEOPLE WHO DID NOT BELIEVE THE WORD OF JESUS, BUT WHO LAUGHED AT HIM

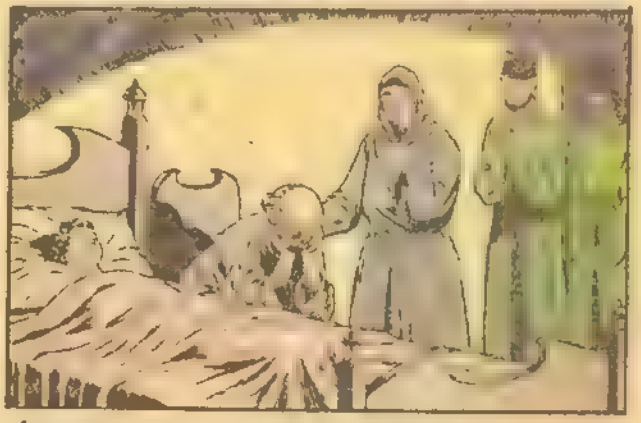
SO NOW THEY HAD COME AND TOLD OTHERS OF THE WONDERS OF JESUS "THIS IS TRULY THE MESSIAH," THEY SAID "HE IS CHRIST THE SAVIOUR OF THE WORLD!"

ILLUSTRATED BY SID GREENE

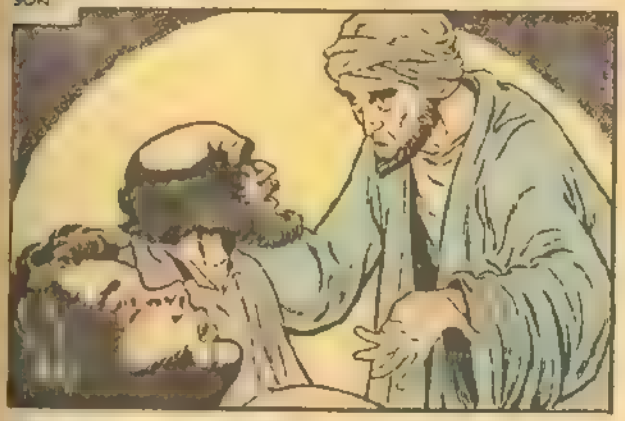
SO WHEN JESUS ENTERED THE CITY, HE WAS GREETED HAPPILY BY THE PEOPLE WHO HAD SEEN HIS MIRACLES

BUT JESUS WAS SAD. THEY BELIEVED IN HIM ONLY WHEN THEY HAD PROOF. THEY HAD NO FAITH. THEY WERE NOT TRUE BELIEVERS

NOW AT CAPERNAUM A NOBLEMAN'S SON LAY DYING AND THE FATHER GRIEVED FOR THE BOY



THERE CAME ONE WHO SAID: "JESUS HAS COME TO GALILEE. HE HAS PERFORMED GREAT THINGS. MAYBE HE CAN SAVE YOUR SON."



AND THE NOBLEMAN RUSHED TO GALILEE AND SAW THE GREAT CROWD GATHERED AROUND JESUS

THE NOBLEMAN MADE HIS WAY TO JESUS' SIDE AND BEGGED HIM, "COME AND HEAL MY SON, MASTER, FOR HE IS AT THE POINT OF DEATH."

BUT JESUS SAID: "UNLESS YOU SEE SIGNS AND WONDERS, YOU DO NOT BELIEVE IN ME." BUT THE NOBLEMAN PLEADED: "COME BEFORE MY CHILD DIES."

HERE WAS A MAN, RICH AND NOBLE, WITH MONEY TO BUY EVERYTHING EXCEPT A DAY OF LIFE FOR HIS SON. SO HE KNELT BEFORE THE MASTER AND BEGGED FOR A MIRACLE.

SO JESUS DECIDED TO TEST HIS FAITH AND SEE IF HE WAS A TRUE BELIEVER. "GO YOUR WAY," SAID JESUS; "YOUR SON WILL LIVE."

WHAT WOULD THE NOBLEMAN DO? WOULD HE RUSH BACK TO CAPERNAUM TO SEE IF JESUS' WORD WAS GOOD?

OR WOULD HE DO AS JESUS ASKED AND GO ABOUT HIS BUSINESS? THIS WAS THE TEST OF HIS FAITH IN THE SAVIOUR

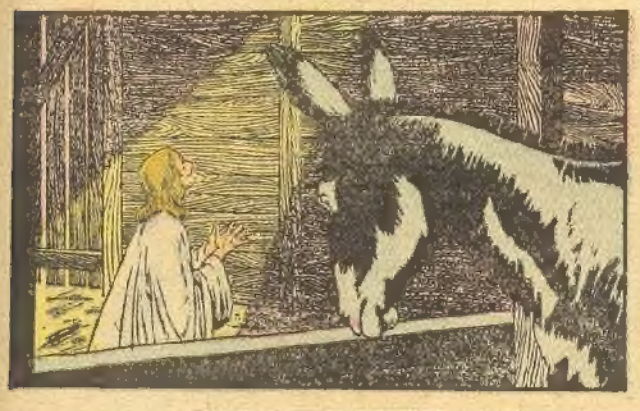
HE LOOKED AT THE FACE OF JESUS AND SAW THE LIGHT OF HOPE THERE

AND HE TURNED...AWAY FROM CAPERNAUM AND FROM WHERE HIS SON WAS, AND WENT ABOUT HIS BUSINESS; SAYING: "IF JESUS SAYS MY SON WILL LIVE, THEN HE WILL LIVE."

BUT THERE WERE THE DOUBTERS WHO SCOFFED AT THE NOBLEMAN FOR HIS FAITH IN THE NAZARENE. THEY LAUGHED AND RIDICULED HIM AND SAID: "WHY DO YOU NOT GO TO THE DEATHBED OF YOUR SON? THAT IS WHERE YOU BELONG!"

"THERE IS NO NEED," SAID THE NOBLEMAN, "MY SON LIVES!" AND THEY LAUGHED EVEN MORE

WHEN JESUS WAS ALONE, HE KNELT AND PRAYED TO HIS FATHER IN HEAVEN, IT WAS THE SEVENTH HOUR OF THE DAY WHEN ALL THESE THINGS HAPPENED.



THE SKIES GLOWED WITH A SUDDEN BRIGHTNESS OVERHEAD. THE PEOPLE GOING ABOUT THEIR DAILY TASKS LOOKED UP AND WONDERED AT THE SIGHT.

AND FAR OFF IN CAPERNAUM, THE DOCTORS AND RELATIVES WATCHED OVER THE DYING BOY. ONE SAID: "WHERE IS HIS FATHER WHO LOVES HIM? AT A TIME LIKE THIS HE SHOULD BE HERE AND IS NOT."

BUT THEN THEY SAW AN ASTOUNDING SIGHT. THE BOY OPENED HIS EYES AT THE GREAT LIGHT THAT CAME THROUGH THE WINDOW, AND THERE WAS A SMILE ON HIS FACE.

THEN HE SAT UP AND SAID CHEERFULLY: "WHY IS EVERYONE AROUND MY BED? AND WHERE IS MY FATHER?"

HIS RELATIVES REJOICED AT THE MIRACLE. HIS MOTHER EMBRACED HIM AND TEARS OF JOY RAN DOWN HER CHEEKS AT THE RECOVERY.

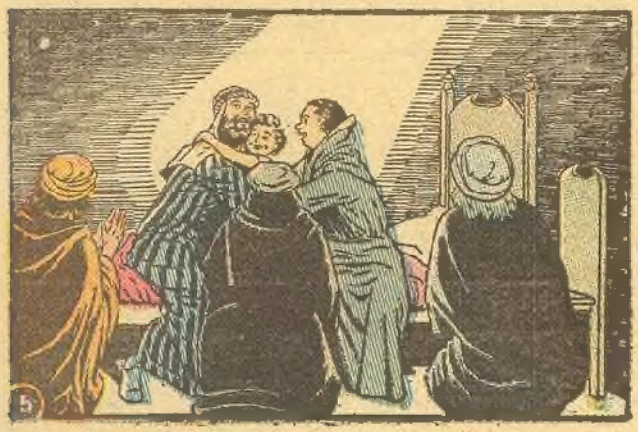
"RUN!" SHE CRIED, "RUN AND FIND MY HUSBAND, THE BOY'S FATHER, AND TELL HIM WHAT HAS TAKEN PLACE ON THIS BLESSED DAY." AND IT WAS THE SEVENTH HOUR OF THE DAY WHEN THIS TOOK PLACE.

SO THE SERVANTS RAN AND THEY SEARCHED, BUT THEY COULD NOT FIND THE NOBLEMAN.

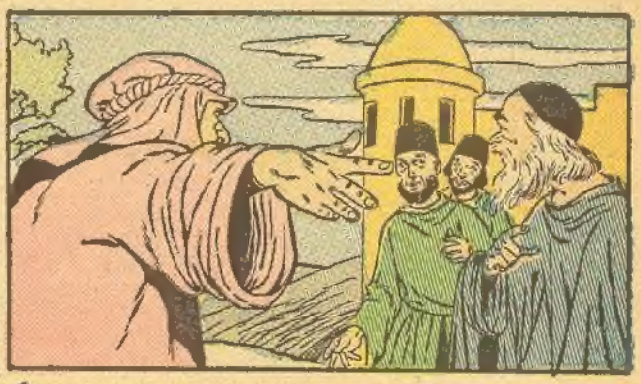
"YOU FOOLS!" CRIED THE SERVANTS AS THEY HURRIED OFF. "HE DOES NOT DIE. ***HE LIVES!***"

THE NOBLEMAN WAS VERY CALM AND HIS HOUSEHOLD WONDERED AT THIS. THEN HE SAID: "AT WHAT HOUR DID MY SON BEGIN TO GET WELL?" THEY REPLIED: "IT WAS YESTERDAY AT THE SEVENTH HOUR."

"JESUS SAID TO ME: 'YOUR SON WILL LIVE!' AND I BELIEVED, AND HE LIVES! GLORY BE TO JESUS!"



THEN THEY ARRIVED AT GALILEE AND ASKED FOR HIM. "HE HAS GONE ABOUT HIS BUSINESS," THEY TOLD THE SERVANTS. "HE HAS GONE AWAY FROM CAPERNAUM WHERE HIS SON LIES DYING."



AND THEN, THE NEXT DAY, THE NOBLEMAN RETURNED TO CAPERNAUM AND HIS SERVANTS CAME OUT, CRYING: "'HE LIVES! HE LIVES!"

"THAT WAS THE HOUR THE MASTER TOLD ME HE WOULD RECOVER." CRIED THE NOBLEMAN. "JESUS CHRIST IS THE MESSIAH."

AND HIS WHOLE HOUSEHOLD BELIEVED AS HE DID, FOR HIS FAITH IN THE SAVIOUR HAD BROUGHT LIFE TO HIS SON.

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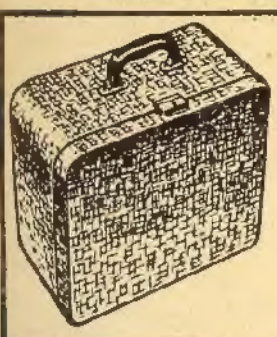

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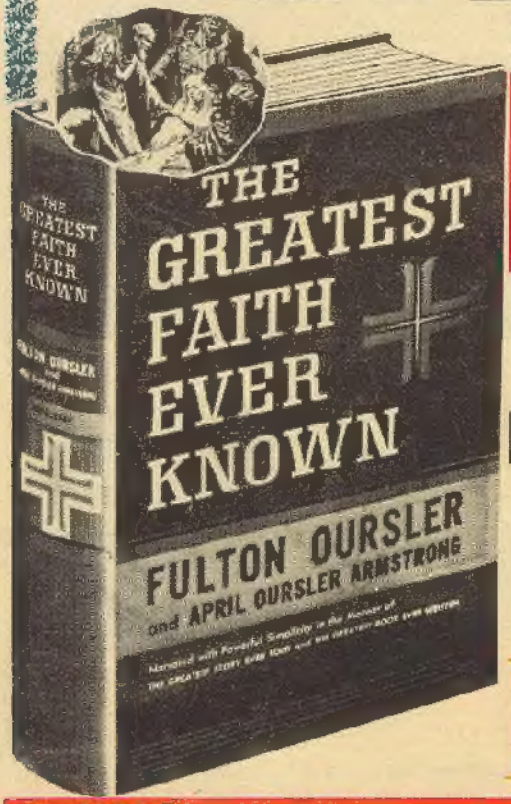

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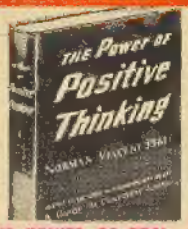

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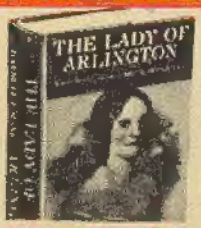

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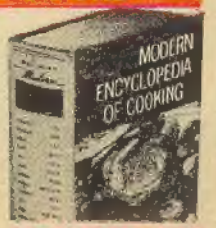

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